Commercial Driver Program
Participant's Guide

December 8, 2008

Introduction

In this guide, you will find information about the FAST Commercial Driver Program.

Please also note the following limited uses of the FAST Commercial Driver card outside of the FAST Program:

- The FAST Commercial Driver card is accepted as proof of identity and citizenship and serves as a secure alternative to a passport for purposes of the **Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative.** It may be used for this purpose in FAST lane processing or other land border travel to the United States including in non-commercial and pedestrian lanes. However, if you are not a U.S. citizen, you must always have appropriate immigration documents with you in addition to your FAST card when entering the United States.

- YOU MAY NEVER USE YOUR FAST CARD TO ENTER THE UNITED STATES USING A SENTRI OR NEXUS LANE.

- In general, FAST Commercial Driver cards are valid for five years. However, if a renewal request is filed before expiration, a FAST Commercial Driver card remains valid beyond its printed expiration date until a new card is activated or the renewal request is denied.

As an approved participant of this program, you will receive:

- this participant's guide;

- a FAST Commercial Driver card with photo identification;

- for Canadian residents, a copy of the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) publication called I Declare, and the United States Customs and Border Protection (CBP) publication called Visiting the United States;

- for United States residents, a copy of the CBSA publication called Information for Visitors to Canada and Seasonal Residents, and the CBP publication called, Know Before You Go; and

- information on Canadian and American rules related to cabotage.

FAST Terms and Conditions

When using FAST release, you must:

- comply with all customs and immigration laws of the Untied States and Canada and all other laws and regulations enforced by CBP and CBSA;
- carry at all times and show when requested your FAST Commercial Driver card, and necessary personal identification including any immigration documents;
- make sure everyone in your vehicle has a valid FAST Commercial Driver card before you reach the border; If any of the passengers in your vehicle is either not carrying his FAST Commercial Driver card or is not a FAST Commercial Driver participant, you must use the regular service lanes;
- not transfer your FAST Commercial Driver card to another individual;
- not violate the customs and immigration regulations of Canada or the United States concerning “cabotage” – or “point to point” movement of commercial shipments.

When you are no longer a participant in the FAST Commercial Driver Program you must:

- close your FAST account using the Global Online Enrollment System (GOES) or return the FAST Commercial Driver card to a FAST Enrollment Center.
- return unused Traveler Declaration Cards to any CBSA office in Canada.

Change of Information

You must notify CBP and CBSA of any change in the address provided as part of your FAST Commercial Driver application. This may be done in person at a FAST Enrollment Center, via the internet using your GOES account, or by contacting the Canadian Processing Centre at 1-800-842-7647 between the hours of 8:30 am -16:30 pm Eastern Standard Time (EST) or by fax to (905) 354-2332.

CBP requires that all information in your FAST Commercial Driver

Account be kept current. Any changes not reported by phone, fax or the internet must be reported in person at a FAST Enrollment Center. See www.cbsa.gc.ca or www.cbp.gov for hours and locations.

While possession of a Commercial Driver's License (CDL) is not a formal requirement of the FAST program, FAST Commercial Driver Participants may use their GOES account to keep their CDL data current to avoid passage disruptions when entering the United States.

Lost/Stolen or Damaged/Defective Cards

You must notify the Canadian Processing Centre or a FAST Enrollment Center if your card has been lost or stolen.

- If your card has been lost, stolen or damaged, you must pay US $25 to be re-issued a card via GOES (or at a FAST Enrollment Center in the U.S.) or $25 CAN at a FAST Enrollment Center in Canada.

- Defective cards will be replaced free of charge at any FAST Enrollment Center. The defective card must be surrendered.

Penalties

CBSA and CBP officers will strictly enforce the law. Any time you enter Canada or the United States you are subject to compliance and enforcement checks. If you are found in violation of any condition of the FAST program, or of any law of Canada or the United States, officers may:

- revoke your FAST Commercial Driver card. If your card is revoked, you must wait 90 days before you can re apply to the FAST Commercial Driver Program;

- seize any undeclared goods and the vehicle you used to transport those goods;

- issue penalties;

- initiate administrative procedures; and

- initiate criminal prosecution.

Crossing the Border

As a FAST Commercial Driver participant, you must declare all goods you are importing whenever you cross the border into Canada or the United States.

Entering the United States with Goods to Declare

If you are entering the United States and are importing goods for your personal use, you must make a verbal declaration to the officer in the booth. For more information, residents of the United States should refer to the United States publication called Know Before You Go and Canadian residents visiting the United States should review the publication called Visiting the United States.

If you are entering the United States and have goods to declare in excess of your personal exemption, you must use the regular lane.

Entering Canada with Goods to Declare

If you are entering Canada and are importing goods for your personal use that do not exceed your personal exemption, you must make a verbal declaration to the officer in the booth. For more information about importing goods into Canada, Canadian residents should see the CBSA publication called I Declare and residents of the United States should review the publication called Information for Visitors to Canada and Seasonal Residents.

If you are entering Canada and have goods to declare in excess of your personal exemption, you must use the regular lane.

Note: Canadian residents have the option of obtaining Traveler Declaration Cards (TDC) that can be presented any time you cross into Canada using the FAST lane. You must complete the card before arriving in Canada. When you arrive, hand your TDC to the officer in the booth. If you exceed your personal exemption, the duties and tax owing will be charged to your credit card.

Importing Restrictions for Canada and the United States for Personal Use Goods

You must not import controlled, restricted, or prohibited firearms or weapons, including Mace, pepper spray, and stun guns.

You must not import controlled, restricted, or prohibited goods, animals, or plants. This includes controlled, restricted, or prohibited substances,

endangered animals and species, and restricted fruits and vegetables. For more information, see the CBSA publications I Declare and Information for Visitors to Canada and Seasonal Residents, and the CBP publications Know Before You Go and Visiting the United States.

If you bring or carry more than US$10,000 in currency and monetary instruments into or out of the United States, you must use the regular lane and make a declaration to CBP.

FAST Procedures at Port of Entry

FAST clearance can only be used if everyone in the vehicle is in possession of a valid FAST Commercial Driver card and transporting eligible goods for a FAST-approved carrier and importer. The following procedures apply:

- When you enter Canada or the United States where there is a dedicated FAST lane or RFID reader, stop and hold your FAST Commercial Driver card(s) in front of the card reader and then stop at the inspection booth to complete the inspection process.
- For border locations without an RFID reader, present your FAST Commercial Driver card(s) to the officer in the booth.

Denials and Revocations by CBP

If your application to the FAST Commercial Driver Program is denied or your membership is revoked by CBP, you may inquire with a FAST Enrollment Center supervisor or in writing with the CBP Ombudsman if the reasons for the action are unclear. The Ombudsman's address is:

U.S. Customs and Border Protection
300 Interstate Corporate Center, Suite 303
Williston, VT 05495
Attn: CBP Ombudsman

FAST Driver Enrollment Center contact information is listed on our web site at: www.cbp.gov. You should make these inquiries before re-applying to the program.